

Message Text

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13-53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 USIA-06 EB-07

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 COME-00 OPIC-03 TRSE-00

/061 W

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P R 251110Z FEB 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6679D

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, CG, OVIP (ROBINSON, CHARLES W.)

SUBJ: UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON'S VISIT TO ZAIRE: PRESS COVERAGE

PASS USIA

CAIRO FOR UNDERSECRETARY ROBINSON

1. ZAIRIAN MEDIA HAVE GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON'S VISIT AND MEETING WITH GOZ OFFICIALS.

2. RADIO/TV INTERVIEW UPON ARRIVAL BUILT AROUND THEME OF ARRIVAL STATEMENT BROADCAST ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS OVER WEEKEND BY KINSHASA RADIO AND TELEVISION. LENGTHY (15 PARAGRAPHS) ZAIRIAN PRESS AGENCY (AZAP) ARTICLE FEB. 21 WAS FOLLOWED BY EQUALLY LONG COVERAGE FEB. 23 OF WEEKEND ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING VISIT TO INGA DAM COMPLEX. ARRIVAL STATEMENT STRESSING ZAIRE'S ECONOMIC PROGRESS ALSO USED AS PEG FOR FEB. 24 "ELIMA" EDITORIAL HAILING GOZ'S POLICIES.

3. MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU RECEIVED PROMINENT FRONT-PAGE DISPLAY BOTH KINSHASA DAILIES ("ZAIRIAN-AMERICAN COOPERATION" HEADLINED "SALONGO" COVERAGE FEB. 24). RADIO/TV INTERVIEW WHICH FOLLOWED MOBUTU-ROBINSON BREAKFAST MEETING ALYF HIGHLIGHTED ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALL NEWSCASTS.

4. COMMENT: THE GOZ OBVIOUSLY PULLED OUT ALL STOPS TO GIVE
HIGHEST MEDIA PRIORITY TO THE ROBINSON VISIT. THE ORCHESTRATION
WAS DELIBERATE AND QUITE CLEAR IN WMWB THE ZAIRIAN AUDIENCE WAS
SUPPOSED TO GLEAN FROM THE VISIT: THE US, IMPRESSED BY UHAT
PRESIDENT MOBUTU HAS DONE THUS FAR, STANDS READY TO ASSIST IN
THIS TIME OF TEMPORARY ECONOMIC CRISIS.
WALKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KINSHA01655
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760072-0161
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760215/aaaaamta.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON'S VISIT TO ZAIRE: PRESS COVERAGE PASS USIA
TAGS: EGEN, OVIP, CG, US, (ROBINSON, CHARLES W)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006